

Program Priorities, Legislative Mandates, Key Issues, HHS Priorities 2005

Program Priorities

The following priorities represent the overarching goals for the Title X program. In developing a proposal, each applicant should describe how the proposed project will address each priority.

1. Assuring continued high quality clinical family planning and related preventive health services that will improve the overall health of individuals;
2. Assuring access to a broad range of high quality clinical family planning and related preventive health services that include the following: provision of highly effective contraceptive methods; breast and cervical cancer screening and prevention; STD and HIV prevention education, counseling, and testing; extramarital abstinence education and counseling; and other preventive health services. The broad range of services does not include abortion as a method of family planning;
3. Encouraging family participation in the decision of minors to seek family planning services, including activities that promote positive family relationships;
4. Improving the health of individuals and communities by partnering with community-based organizations (CBOs), faith-based organizations (FBOs), and other public health providers that work with vulnerable or at-risk populations;
5. Promoting individual and community health by emphasizing family planning and related preventive health services for hard-to-reach populations, such as uninsured or under-insured individuals, males, persons with limited English proficiency, adolescents, and other vulnerable or at-risk populations.

Legislative Mandates

The following legislative mandates have been part of the Title X appropriations for each of the last several years. In developing a proposal, each applicant should describe how the proposed project will address each of these legislative mandates.

- “None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be made available to any entity under title X of the Public Health Service Act unless the applicant for the award certifies to the Secretary that it encourages family participation in the decision of minors to seek family planning services and that it provides counseling to minors on how to resist attempts to coerce minors into engaging in sexual activities;” and
- “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no provider of services under title X of the Public Health Service Act shall be exempt from any State law requiring notification or the reporting of child abuse, child molestation, sexual abuse, rape, or incest.”

Other Key Issues

In addition to the Program Priorities and Legislative Mandates, the following Key Issues have implications for Title X services projects and should be acknowledged in the program plan:

1. The increasing cost of providing family planning services;
2. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Service priorities, initiatives, and Healthy

People 2010 objectives as they relate to family planning and reproductive health (<http://www.health.gov/healthypeople>);

3. Departmental initiatives and legislative mandates such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA); Infant Adoption Awareness Program; providing adolescents with information, skills and support to encourage delay of sexual activity; serving persons with limited English proficiency;
4. Integration of HIV/AIDS services in Family Planning, specifically, HIV/AIDS education, counseling and testing either on-site or by referral should be provided in all Title X funded programs. Education regarding the prevention of HIV/AIDS should incorporate the “ABC” message. That is, for adolescents and unmarried individuals, the message is “A” for abstinence; for married or individuals in committed relationships, the message is “B” for being faithful; and, for individuals who engage in behavior that puts them at risk for HIV, the message is “C” for condom use.
5. Utilization of electronic technologies such as e-Grants, the OPA electronic grants management system (Training for grantees will be provided as needed);
6. Data collection and reporting which is responsive to the Family Planning Annual Report and other information needs for monitoring and improving family planning services;
7. Service delivery improvement through utilization of research outcomes focusing on family planning and related population issues; and
8. Utilizing practice guidelines and recommendations developed by recognized professional organizations and other Federal agencies in the provision of evidence-based Title X clinical services.

HHS Departmental Goals (HHS Strategic Plan)

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Goal 1. | Reduce the major threats to the health and well-being of Americans. |
| Goal 2. | Enhance the ability of the Nation's health care system to effectively respond to bio-terrorism and other public health challenges. |
| Goal 3. | Increase the percentage of the Nation's children and adults who have access to health care services, and expand consumer choices. |
| Goal 4. | Enhance the capacity and productivity of the Nation's health science research enterprise. |
| Goal 5. | Improve the quality of health care services. |
| Goal 6. | Improve the economic and social well-being of individuals, families, and communities, especially those most in need. |
| Goal 7. | Improve the stability and healthy development of our Nation's children and youth. |
| Goal 8. | Achieve excellence in management practices. |